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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5585
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: PORG PINR NP
SUBJ: NEPAL NAMES NEW DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE TO UN

1. HMG JULY 3 ANNOUNCED APPOINTMENT OF DR. MOHAN PRASED LOHANI AS DEPUTY PERMANENT RERESENTATIVE TO UNITED NATIONS.

2. LOHANI, A PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE AT KATHMANDU'S TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY, HAS A LONG-STANDING INTEREST IN INTER-NATIONAL AFFAIRS. HE HAS PREVIOUSLY SERVED ON NEPAESE DEEGATION TO UNGA IN 1973 AND WAS VIC PRESIDENT OF NEPAL'S WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL FROM 1972-74. LOBANI IS IN HIS LATE 30'S AND RECEIVED BOTH M.A. AND PH.D. FROM BENARES UNIVERSITY (INDIA). HE HAS REPUTATION OF BEING STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF KING AND RECENTLY PROVIDED SOME HELP IN DRAFTING OF COUNTRY'S NEW POLITICAL REFORMS. LOBANI SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH.

3. ALTHOUGH LOHANI HAS FAITHFULLY ATTENDED USIS-SPONSORED EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT HE HOLDS NO PARTICULR PHILOSPHY OF BRIEF IN FORIEGN AFFAIRS. HE IS QUIET, SOFT SPOKEN AND PROBABLY GENUINELY SUPPORTS POLICY OF BALANCED NON-ALIGNEDMENT. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER HE HAS PRIVATE CONNECTIONS TO DECISION MAKERS IN THE COUNTRY BUT INITIALLY, AT LEAST, WE WOULD EXPECT HIM TO REMAIN MUCH IN SHADOW IN NEPAL'S UN AMBASSADOR UPADHYAYA.
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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